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April 4, 2013

Re: The impact of sexual predators and other violent felons in housing amongst children.

In 1998 I moved with my nine-year-old daughter into housing named Pickford/Leonard that was run by a nonprofit. My eighteen-year-old had suffered injury that required a serious surgery and because of this I had had lost my business and my home.

I was offered a HUD voucher and told that the Pickford/Leonard Complex was a wonderful place for children. One year later I learned that the owners, Corvallis Neighborhood Housing Services (CNHS), had partnered with the Linn Benton Housing Authority (LBHA) to build an IRS tax credit funded housing development named Camas Commons and that LBHA would now manage my housing.

Soon all of the hard to rent units at Pickford/Leonard were filled with felons with long criminal histories. From 1999 through 2003 I watched a sweet family neighborhood morph into a hell-hole as each of the sexual predators and violent offenders and methamphetamine dealers repeated the crimes they had done for many years in the upstairs of my house and in the houses surrounding mine.

The effect of housing repeat offenders around children was devastating and neither the housing authority nor the owners heard as the mothers from Pickford/Leonard begged for relief from the horror of having our children live in deep continual fear of rape or death.

I learned that a sexual predator is obsessed with finding his next victim and targets the children around him. James Hickman lived in the house next to mine in a HUD funded unit and he had been imprisoned before he moved there for attempting to

sodomize a small child and her siblings. Under the federal *Protection of Children Statutes* which are U.S. Code 42, Chapter 135, Subchapter V, Section 13661 – 13663 he was not to be housed using federal dollars and yet he was because there is no enforcement of those statutes locally. I spoke with the Office of Inspector General of HUD many times and they do not have the man power or funds to monitor housing authorities across America. The public is not aware of the federal laws or that these dangerous placements that are being made illegally. We need state statutes to match the federal statutes and more importantly the intent of the federal statutes which is to protect children.

Some of the other felons that CNHS, which is now Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services, and LBHA housed amongst the seventeen children in my neighborhood were Barry Alan Brown. Robert Rolls, Walter Morgan and James Reid.

Barry Brown had over sixty arraignments in Benton County prior to his placement in the upstairs of my house. The Section 8 Supervisor of LBHA, Paulette Postell, warned the executive director, James Hackett, that it would be dangerous to the children to place this man at Pickford/Leonard and the placement was made regardless because all of the units needed to be filled to justify asking Oregon for more IRS tax credits to create Camas Commons. Barry Brown stalked my ten-year-old, broke into our unit repeatedly, tapped all of the mother's phones, slashed the children's swimming pools, slashed tires and put sugar in the gas tanks of our cars destroying the engines. He also rewired our house so I and another mother were paying for his electricity. He did something to us daily.

Robert Rolls sold drugs out of his unit the entire time he lived there and physically and sexually abused his children.

Walter Morgan intentionally harassed my child the entire time he lived in my house and sold drugs out of his unit. He had a violent criminal history including threatening a woman with a knife. Corvallis Police Officer Philip Howrey hid in the bushes trying to catch him and witnessed him trying to bash in my window one night and CNHS left him upstairs for another month after his release from jail and

he poisoned our cat on his last day. I had reported his harassment of my thirteen-year-old daughter for nine months to LBHA and CNHS and no relief was offered.

James Reid paid each of the teenage boys in the neighborhood with methamphetamine to steal bikes on Oregon State University campus. He gave them old bikes and tools and taught them how to break ~~the~~ bike locks. Beautiful bikes went up the stairs of my house nightly and were broken down to parts and traded with the drug dealers that drove up in the morning with new supplies of methamphetamine. James Reid had a long history of making and selling meth and of stealing and came out of the penitentiary the day he moved upstairs. He threw his wife into the walls and we could hear her screams. He taught his teenage son the grades of meth in my front hallway. I could hear him through the door. He injected his six-month-old with meth and the child was taken away by protective services and he remained in his HUD funded apartment above mine.

Another mother and I reported all of this to the boards of CNHS and LBHA and no changes were made. We also testified before Corvallis City Council as the city subsidized Pickford/Leonard and nothing was done to help our children. I offered testimony before the Benton County Commissioners four times and they refused to assert any oversight of the Linn Benton Housing Authority even after State Senator Frank Morse asked state legislative counsel for verification that according to Oregon Revised Statutes 456 county housing authorities are created by and may be controlled by county commissioners.

My daughter and I truly and deeply suffered while living at Pickford/Leonard. She woke up with little crescent cuts in her forearms where she dug her nails into her arms while she slept. She had blood on her pillow in the morning where she chewed up the inside of her mouth while she slept. Often she could not sleep at all because she said she was afraid that Barry Brown or James Hickman or James Reid or Walter Morgan would come into our home and kill us. We found our door unlocked and open often in the mornings. She fell asleep in school often and she went from being a straight "A" student to having no interest in school. She was a skilled violinist and talented ballerina and she gave these up.

Each of the children at Pickford/Leonard suffered and few have had success as young adults. Cruise Cassidy was the teen who told me that James Reid offered the boys meth for working for him to steal bikes. Cruise went to prison nine years ago for killing someone.

Both of James Reid's sons were found dead in the Willamette River in 2008.

The part of all of this that is so hard to convey to anyone who was not there is how the overwhelming fear that my daughter and I felt never went away. We experienced it every moment of every day and night while we lived at Pickford/Leonard and carry a hyper-vigilance with us for life from the nightmare we were forced to endure living amongst felons with long and dangerous histories of violent and drug related crime.

I implore you to ensure that the bill before you that will keep this from happening to other families is passed.

I swear that every word I have written is the truth.



Caterina Rosenfeld